

REMARKS

Claim 6 has been amended to recite that the structural unit M1 is a structural unit represented by the formula (2-2). Support is found, for example, at page 51, lines 11-23 of the specification. Claims 10-14 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the cancelled claims. No new matter has been added, and entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

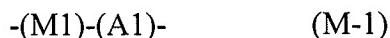
Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1-9, 15-17 and 20 will be pending.

Applicants note with appreciation that claims 1-5, 7-8, 15-17 and 20 are allowed.

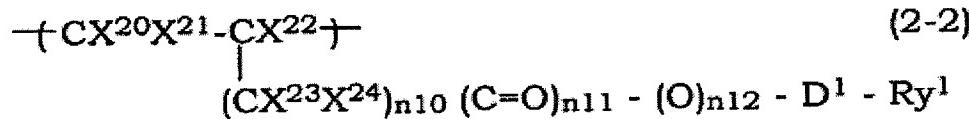
Claims 6 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Morita (JP 10237130).

This rejection should be withdrawn because Morita does not disclose or render obvious the present invention.

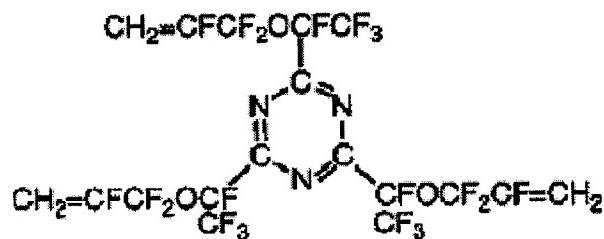
Present Claim 6 as amended relates to an ionic liquid type functional material comprising a fluorine-containing polymer represented by the formula (M-1):



wherein the structural unit M1 is a structural unit represented by the formula (2-2) and the structural unit A1 is a structural unit derived from a monomer being copolymerizable with the monomer being capable of providing the structural unit M1.



Morita was cited as disclosing an ionic liquid type functional material ([0015]) comprising an aromatic compound which has a fluorine-containing ether chain ([0027]-[0030]) represented by the following formula (in addition to two other related compounds):



MORITA

However, Morita's compounds relied upon by the Examiner have a structure that is entirely different from the fluorine-containing structural unit M1 represented by the formula (2-2) of the amended claim 6. Moreover, there is no apparent reason which would lead one of ordinary skill to modify Morita's compounds to arrive at the fluorine-containing structural unit M1 represented by formula (2-2).

Accordingly, claims 6 and 9 are not anticipated by or obvious over Morita.

In view of the above, reconsideration and withdrawal of the §102(b) rejection based on Morita are respectfully requested.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Application No.: 10/591,860

Attorney Docket No.: Q96559

Allowance of claims 6 and 9 is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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